

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Appln. No. 10/070,639

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A pull-out shelf for mounting on a rack uprights (1) ~~or the like and~~, comprising:

two brackets (4) projecting from the uprights or from supports mounted thereon, at least one rail (7) mounted on each bracket so as to be capable of being pulled out, and -a shelf plane (8-12) ~~or equivalent~~, supported by the rails, for articles which are to be placed on the shelf, ~~which~~said shelf ~~comprises~~comprising at least one releasable locking member (24) which, when an associated operating member (18) is actuated manually, releases the ~~pull-~~ ~~out~~ rails (7), so that ~~these~~the rails can be pulled out and pushed in, and, in the unactuated state, locks the rails relative to the brackets (4), ~~characterized in that~~

wherein, when the operating member is unactuated, said locking member locks the rails under the action of a spring force, in that said manual actuation of the operating member ~~takes place~~occurs counter to the action of said spring force, so that releasing said operating member results in instantaneous locking of the rails and thus the shelf in the current position so as to allow stepless locking of the shelf in ~~optional positions~~any position between an inner and an outer end position,

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wherein said locking member follows the movements of the shelf and comprises a friction body (24) projecting between engagement surfaces of one of said two brackets (4) of the shelf,

wherein the friction body (24) has a non-circular cross section, and said operating member (18) is adapted so as, when actuated, to bring about a rotation of the friction body from a locking position, in which the friction body is in friction engagement with said engagement surfaces, into a free position, in which it can be displaced relative to said engagement surfaces.

2. (canceled).

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises further comprising~~ two locking members, ~~and~~ a rotatable friction body (24) being arranged between said two engagement surfaces of each ~~of said two brackets~~ bracket (4).

5. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 31, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said friction body has a rectangular, ~~preferably square~~, cross section, and ~~in that~~, in the locking position, ~~it~~said friction body is rotated in such a manner relative to the ~~two~~ engagement surfaces that the engagement with ~~the~~said engagement surfaces increases as a consequence of an outwardly directed tensile force acting on the shelf.

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6. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 31, characterized in that the operating member intended for rotating said friction body consists of a spring-loaded operating rod arranged on the shelf, which rod, in the unactuated state, holds the friction body in a locking position under the action of the spring force and, when actuated counter to the action of the

spring force, rotates the friction body into a free position.

7. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~saidwherein said~~ engagement surfaces are formed by the legs of ~~a rail~~said at least one rail with a U-shaped profile arranged on at least ~~on oneone~~ of ~~said two brackets~~bracket of the shelf.

8. (original): The shelf as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the U-shaped rail is borne by a lower horizontal flange of the bracket.

9. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~saidwherein said~~ engagement surfaces are formed by a lower horizontal flange of at least one bracket of the shelf and by a lower edge of a fixed guide rail which is borne by the bracket and in which the pull-out rail of the shelf runs.

10. (currently amended): ~~TheA pull-out shelf as claimed in claim 4for mounting on rack uprights(1) comprising:~~

~~two brackets (4) projecting from the uprights or from supports mounted thereon,~~

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at least one rail (7) mounted on each bracket so as to be capable of being pulled out,  
a shelf plane (8-12), supported by the rails, for articles which are to be placed on the  
shelf, said shelf comprising two releasable locking member which, when an associated operating  
member (18) is actuated manually, releases the rails (7), so that the rails can be pulled out and  
pushed in, and, in the unactuated state, locks the rails relative to the brackets (4),  
wherein, when the operating member is unactuated, said locking members lock the rails  
under the action of a spring force, in that said manual actuation of the operating member occurs  
counter to the action of said spring force, so that releasing said operating member results in  
instantaneous locking of the rails and thus the shelf in the current position so as to allow locking  
of the shelf in any position between an inner and an outer end position, and  
a rotatable friction body (24) arranged between engagement surfaces of each of said  
brackets (4),  
characterized in thatwherein said friction bodies (24) consist of the end portion of a bar  
(22) extending between the brackets (4), in that the bar follows the displacement movements of  
the shelf, and in that the bar can be rotated by means of said operating member (18).

11. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it  
comprisesfurther comprising adjustable stop members (26) which are adapted so as to allow  
adjustment of the location of the inner position of the shelf.

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12. (currently amended): ~~The~~A pull-out shelf for mounting on rack uprights as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that (1), comprising:

two brackets (4) projecting from the uprights or from supports mounted thereon,  
at least one rail (7) mounted on each bracket so as to be capable of being pulled out,  
a shelf plane (8-12), supported by the rails, for articles which are to be placed on the  
shelf, said shelf comprising at least one releasable locking member which, when an associated  
operating member (18) is actuated manually, releases the rails (7), so that the rails can be pulled  
out and pushed in, and, in the unactuated state, locks the rails relative to the brackets (4),  
wherein, when the operating member is unactuated, said locking member locks the rails  
under the action of a spring force, in that said manual actuation of the operating member occurs  
counter to the action of said spring force, so that releasing said operating member results in  
instantaneous locking of the rails and thus the shelf in the current position so as to allow locking  
of the shelf in any position between an inner and an outer end position, and  
adjustable stop members (26) which are adapted so as to allow adjustment of the location  
of the inner position of the shelf,  
wherein said stop members (26) comprise stirrups, pins or equivalent, which can be  
mounted in any of a number of holes (25) or slots, so that they delimit the pushing-in of the pull-  
out rail (7) relative to the bracket (4).

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13. (previously presented): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the brackets (4) are interconnected by means of at least one transverse stay (13) which is easy to mount and allows to be assembled at the point of use.

14. (currently amended): The shelf as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ ~~those wherein~~ parts (3) of the brackets (4) which interact with slot-shaped holes in the rack uprights (1) are made with adjustment notches (5) so as to allow the shelf to be mounted at different angles relative to the rack uprights (1).